

Yin and Yangtze 15 days



Kicking off in Beijing, soak up all the attractions of China's historic capital before heading south to Xi'an and the Terracotta Warriors. Cruise along the mighty Yangtze River, passing through the stunning Three Gorges and then explore Shanghai and ancient Suzhou.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Beijing / Ends in: Shanghai
- Departs: Saturdays - March to October
- No local payment required
- Breakfast: 14, Lunch: 5, Dinner: 6
- Hotel Rating: 3 - 4 star
- Tour Guide: Yes (for groups of 6 or more)

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - [click here](#)
- To book this trip - [click here](#)
- To enquire about this trip - [click here](#)

TOUR MAP:



QUICK WEB LINKS

China Prices ::: Why Us for China? ::: China Reviews ::: Our China Blog ::: Top Spots in China ::: Festivals & Events ::: Hotels in China ::: China - Useful Info ::: FAQs on China ::: China Visas ::: China Gallery

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Day 1: Beijing

Saturday. Welcome to China and the start of your holiday! Enjoy an arrival transfer to our hotel. Overnight - Beijing Overnight - [Beijing](#)

Day 2: Forbidden City

After a short group meeting we embark on a sightseeing tour of the nation's capital and home of the 2008 Olympics. Tiananmen Square, partly framed by illustrious Chang-an Avenue, is essentially the heart of Beijing and is a public arena for the people and stage for Chairman Mao mausoleum. Across from the square is the Gate of Heavenly Peace. Up above the gate and looking out across to all his people, is Chairman Mao. Perhaps today, he is looking at a different Beijing, one that is quickly entering the 21st century. Heading back a few centuries, we step into the Forbidden City, the walled city of the former Chinese emperors, it was only opened after the last emperor was overthrown in 1911. Encompassing architecturally stunning temples and halls, the complex of the Forbidden city is an assault on the eyes.

Later, we take rickshaws to explore the Hutongs of Beijing. As our trusty rickshaw driver peddles us through the network of alleys and old back lanes, we gain a fascinating snapshot of the city's traditional way of life. Overnight - [Beijing](#)

Day 3: The Great Wall

Today, drive to Badaling, where we can walk on a section of the famous Great Wall. A symbol of total Chinese genius, the Great Wall is a cultural icon. At least 20 dynasties were involved in its construction. Stretching some 6700 kilometres, we walk along just a small chunk of this massive masterpiece of human endeavour. Later we visit a cloisonne workshop, viewing the step-by-step process of this curious, yet quite beautiful art form. Tonight we attend a Chinese Acrobatic performance. Overnight - [Beijing](#)



Day 4: Summer Palace

Beijing - Xi'an. At the Summer Palace on Kunming Lake, we view the lavishly decorated temples, halls and courts, reconstructed in

1902. The Long Corridor, a hand painted 730m covered walkway, offers gentle respite from the elements. This afternoon, even the most hardened non-shoppers can't help coming away with a few goodies at the Silk Alley markets. Name-brand attire, bling-bling jewellery, knock-off handbags and shoes are popular acquisitions. Later we travel by train to Xi'an viewing en route the Beijing 2008 Olympic Stadium and aquatic centre. Overnight - Sleeper Train

Day 5: Terracotta Warriors

Xi'an is Shaanxi Province is perhaps most famous for Emperor Qin's Terracotta Warriors. Discovered in 1974 by local farmers digging a well, the 7,000 life-sized soldiers, some 2,200 years old, stand battle-ready in excavated pits under the cover of a modern protective hanger. We tour the archaeological site and Terracotta warrior replica workshop. Tonight, we offer our Tang Dynasty dinner and show. Check out our Tang Dynasty bolton for more details. Overnight - [Xi'an](#)



Day 6: Xi'an's Old City Wall

Spend the morning at leisure before touring the Big Wild Goose Pagoda and taking a bike ride along the great Old City Wall. Peering from the Old City Wall offers spectacular, if not unique views of the city and residence going about their daily lives. Overnight - [Xi'an](#)

Day 7: Xi'an

Xi'an - Chongqing - Yangtze River cruiser. Spend the morning at leisure before flying to Chongqing, the start point for our exciting Yangtze River cruise. Before boarding the cruise the we can stroll along Chongqing's People's Square, in the city centre. Overnight - Yangtze River Cruiser

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Days 8 - 9: Yangtze River Cruise

Yangtze River cruise. Good morning from the River Yangtze! At 6340km in length, the Yangtze is the 3rd longest river in the world, neatly dividing China into north and south and wending its way through eight very different provinces. The Gorges are a breathtaking sight! The first gorge we pass, Qutangxia Gorge is the shortest and narrowest yet the most impressive. Here, the dramatic 1200m limestone peaks are often shrouded in mist and the river shoots through the narrow entrance with great haste.

Next comes Wuxia Gorge, which straddles Sichuan and Hubei Provinces. Lined by twelve sheer peaks, Wuxia offers a spectacular vista for some 45km. Finally is Xiling Gorge, the longest at 75km and which comprises seven smaller gorges. During our cruise, we'll also sail through the new ship locks of the impressive Three Gorges Dam construction.

Whilst cruising, shore excursions are offered at no additional expense to Shibaozhai and Shennong stream, with its unique scenery and four natural gorges. Drift serenely along the stream in small, open 'pea pod boats', looking out upon lush greenery, jagged peaks and ancient villages of the Tujia people - one of the local ethnic minorities. Overnight - Yangtze River Cruiser

Day 10: Yichang

Yichang - Wuhan. After a morning shore excursion to visit the Three Gorges Dam we disembark from our cruise. We have a long afternoon of travel ahead of us and will stop for lunch en-route. After driving to Wuhan (approx 4 hours) we'll enjoy dinner at a local restaurant, hotel check in and overnight. Overnight - [Wuhan](#)



Day 11: Nanjing

Wuhan - Nanjing. This morning we take a high speed D3008 (Hankou - Shanghai) train bound for Nanjing. Departing at 8am and reaching speeds of over 250km we arrive to Nanjing in just a little more than 3 hours.

Upon arrival to Nanjing our city sightseeing tour will commence. Former capital of the Ming Dynasty and capital of Republican China, from 1911 - 1949, Nanjing holds a rich history of both ancient and modern China. This afternoon we visit the Fuzi Miao (Temple of Confucius) and the Memorial Hall of the Nanjing Massacre. A moving experience that charts the atrocities committed at this very site. Overnight - [Nanjing](#)



Day 12: Suzhou

A short train journey East is Suzhou in Jiangsu Province. The charming city boasts extensive waterways and canals dotted with traditional bridges, houses and gardens. A cruise on the Grand Canal exposes Suzhou's beauty, as does our exploration of the humble administrator's house and garden. Overnight - [Suzhou](#)

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Days 13 - 14: Shanghai

An hour's journey brings us to bustling Shanghai. Days 13 and 14 are free for you to explore the city your own way. Perhaps visit the Oriental Pearl TV tower, the Jade Buddha Temple, French Quarter, The Bund or the Old City. Overnight - [Shanghai](#)



Day 15: Shanghai

Saturday. Tour ends after breakfast and included onward transfer to airport.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- Beijing – Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, UNESCO-listed Emperor's Summer Palace, Hutong areas of Beijing, Silk Alley markets, Cloisonne Factory, Chinese Acrobatic performance
- Badaling – UNESCO listed Great Wall of China
- Xi'an – UNESCO listed Terracotta Warriors and Clay warrior

- workshop, Big Wild Goose Pagoda, City Wall and bike ride
- Three Gorges/ Yangtze River cruise – cruise from Chongqing – Yichang. Qutangxia Gorge, Wuxia Gorge and Xiling Gorge
- Nanjing – Nanjing Memorial Hall, Fuzi Miao (Temple of Confucius), Mausoleum of Dr Sun Yatsen
- Suzhou – UNESCO listed gardens, Grand Canal and waterways, Silk factory, Humble Administrator's Garden
- Shanghai – free time. Visit the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, Jade Buddha Temple, The Bund and Old Shanghai, Yuyuan Garden and Huang River

What's Included

- 1 high speed train journey - Wuhan - Nanjing
- 14 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 6 dinners including a Traditional Chinese meal in Beijing
- 10 nights 3 - 4 star hotels
3 nights 4 star Yangtze River Cruiser, 1 overnight train – soft sleeper cabin
- Chinese acrobatic performance
- Rickshaw through Beijing's Hutongs
- Xi'an - bike ride on medieval City Wall
- Yangtze River cruise - Chongqing - Yichang via Three Gorges
- High speed train journey Wuhan - Nanjing
- Suzhou - historic Grand Canal cruise
- Economy class flight - Xi'an - Chongqing
- Airport arrival and departure transfer day 1 and day 15
- Touring of Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing and Suzhou
- Tour leader escorted (for groups of 6 or more)
- English speaking specialist guides at local sights
- All relevant transfers and transportation

What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$3 - 5 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture
- Entrance Fees: \$70 USD
- Tipping Kitty: \$90 USD

BOLT-ONS:

Make the most of your time away! Listed below are the optional activities that are available on this trip. Please note that you will need to book these prior to travel as we cannot always guarantee availability of these activities once you are on holiday.

Tang Dynasty Dinner Show - USD \$89

The Tang Dynasty Show is a performance of Chang'an music and dance that originated during the time of the illustrious Tang Dynasty. Colourfully choreographed according to various

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historical records of the ancient arts with a host of singing, dancing and musical instrument playing performers, coupled with simple backdrops and props, this is entertainment that was once fit for a Tang emperor!

Giant Pandas - USD \$99

Join us on an excursion to see China's beloved mascot - the Giant Panda, at the Shaanxi Rare Wildlife Rescue and Breeding Centre, located at the foot of the Qingling Mountain range in Louguantai Forest Park north west of Xi'an. Originally established as Louguantai wild animal breeding and protection centre, it was the first dedicated crested ibis breeding centre in China. Later it became a shelter for ill or injured Giant Pandas in the region.

Hong Kong Express - 1 day - USD \$499

At the crossroads between East and West, Hong Kong is one of the most exciting cities in the world. Hong Kong has good museums, numerous markets, great seafood, restaurants, bars and nightlife. Jump aboard the comfortable overnight sleeper train from Shanghai direct to Kowloon in central Hong Kong.

Guangzhou - 3 days - USD \$499

Drop into Guangzhou on your way to Hong Kong. Sitting on Pearl River, vibrant and lively Guangzhou or formally Canton offers a swag of attractions including Shamian Island, Chen Family Temple, the tomb of the King of Southern Yue, parks, gardens and markets. Famed for it's cuisine (Cantonese, no less) and also the riverfront shops at Yangjiang Road.

PRICES AND DATES: from USD \$2,959

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged provided there is another single traveller booked on the tour date of your choosing.

2012

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
02 JUN - 16 JUN	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
16 JUN - 30 JUN	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
30 JUN - 14 JUL	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
14 JUL - 28 JUL	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
28 JUL - 11 AUG	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
11 AUG - 25 AUG	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
25 AUG - 08 SEP	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199

08 SEP - 22 SEP	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
22 SEP - 06 OCT	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
06 OCT - 20 OCT	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
20 OCT - 03 NOV	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
03 NOV - 17 NOV	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
09 MAR - 23 MAR	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
23 MAR - 06 APR	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
06 APR - 20 APR	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
20 APR - 04 MAY	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
04 MAY - 18 MAY	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
18 MAY - 01 JUN	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
01 JUN - 15 JUN	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
15 JUN - 29 JUN	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
29 JUN - 13 JUL	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
13 JUL - 27 JUL	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
27 JUL - 10 AUG	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
10 AUG - 24 AUG	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
24 AUG - 07 SEP	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
07 SEP - 21 SEP	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
21 SEP - 05 OCT	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
05 OCT - 19 OCT	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
19 OCT - 02 NOV	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
02 NOV - 16 NOV	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199
16 NOV - 30 NOV	USD \$2,959	USD \$1,199

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
Beijing - Pre-tour accommodation	USD \$55	USD \$44
Shanghai - Post-tour accommodation	USD \$55	USD \$54
Arrival Car Transfer - Beijing	USD \$125	USD \$0
Departure Car Transfer - Shanghai	USD \$145	USD \$0

POSTCARDS:

Here's what some of our past travellers have written in to us and said about their experiences on this trip.

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Our tour leader Feng was superb from start to finish. Having travelled on tours for many years Feng is the best guide we have ever had. She was a true professional with an excellent knowledge, she's also a great fun! Thanks for a great trip!

Zoe T, Jul 2010

Hi John I wanted to write and let you know that we all had a fantastic time on the tour and it was so well organized. I would have no hesitation in recommending your company to my family and friends. Our tour guide, Fengue, who travelled with us was very good and made sure all the food was arranged to meet our dietary requirements. Thank you once again for making our holiday in China a wonderful experience. Kind regards

Bharti Chauhan, Jun 2010

David Lui was an excellent guide, great personality!! Always went out of his way to be helpful and making sure we were ok. Also, he made sure we were all enjoying themselves and getting to do the things we wanted to do (except sleep in late!) and he was very good at keeping track of everyone in the group and making sure none of us got lost. His talks were all very informative and I always found it very interesting to hear his insight on both ancient and modern history. The pace at the end was a bit fast and whilst i enjoyed the pagoda and chimes in Wahan I would have liked more time in Suzhou.

Kate Downes, Nov 2009

Mandy and I are just back from our China trip arranged by you and have had an absolutely fabulous time. Quite apart from the unbelievable experience that being in China is, everything arranged as part of the trip went like clockwork. Guides, drivers and everyone else we encountered did their best to help us in every way possible. Please pass on our thanks, to Jin at the Shandong Agency and, through him, to all our guides: Sabrina in Beijing, Ping in Xi'an, Frank and Alan in Chongqing, Lucy in Wuhan, and Ray and Eva in Shanghai. The drivers too - we didn't get all their names but Du in Beijing and Mr Wang in Shanghai, both of whom we had for several days, were particularly friendly and helpful. The hotel accommodation was always excellent and the Yangtze cruise was wonderful. The overall value of the trip, for the price we paid, was hard to believe. So thanks again - all we need to do now is catch up on our sleep! - and we will certainly hope to use On The Go again. Best wishes

Louie Bernard, Oct 2009

The backbone to any tour is guide. he/she can make or break a tour. David, our guide, was astounding. His consideration to each one of us was exemplary. Also his knowledge of the places we went to was deep

and thorough. I would have liked to spend more than a day in Suzhou less of Wuhan in order to accommodate this. We as a group enjoyed having David eat with us, but this did not happen very often, perhaps this could be mandatory :)

Desley Mullen, Sep 2009

We have found our guide David to be extremely knowledgeable of all the places that we have visited. He made us feel very comfortable throughout the tour. We could not have found a better person as a guide. We could also recommend the local guides whose knowledge have been an real asset.

Glynnis Bennett, Sep 2009